



# **BIODIVERSITY AND DECENTRALISED FOREST MANAGEMENT**

**Interlaken  
April 27th 2004**

**Sayer, Elliott, Barrow, Gretzinger,  
Maginnis, McShane and Shepherd  
IUCN & WWF**



**IUCN and WWF are strongly  
committed to local management  
of natural resources  
We have many field projects and  
policy initiatives to support  
decentralised management**



A photograph showing three people in a lush, green forest. They are wearing traditional woven baskets on their backs and hats. One person is pointing towards the distance. The background shows a dense forest under a cloudy sky.

- In many cases local management may not be ideal for biodiversity.

- But it is the least bad option

A photograph of an oil palm plantation. A dirt road runs through the center, flanked by rows of young palm trees. The background shows a vast expanse of the plantation under a clear sky.

**Centralisation may lead to highly segregated landscapes**

- Driven by need for economic efficiency

- Reinforced by globalisation

Oil palm plantation - Jambi



## Ecosystem approaches

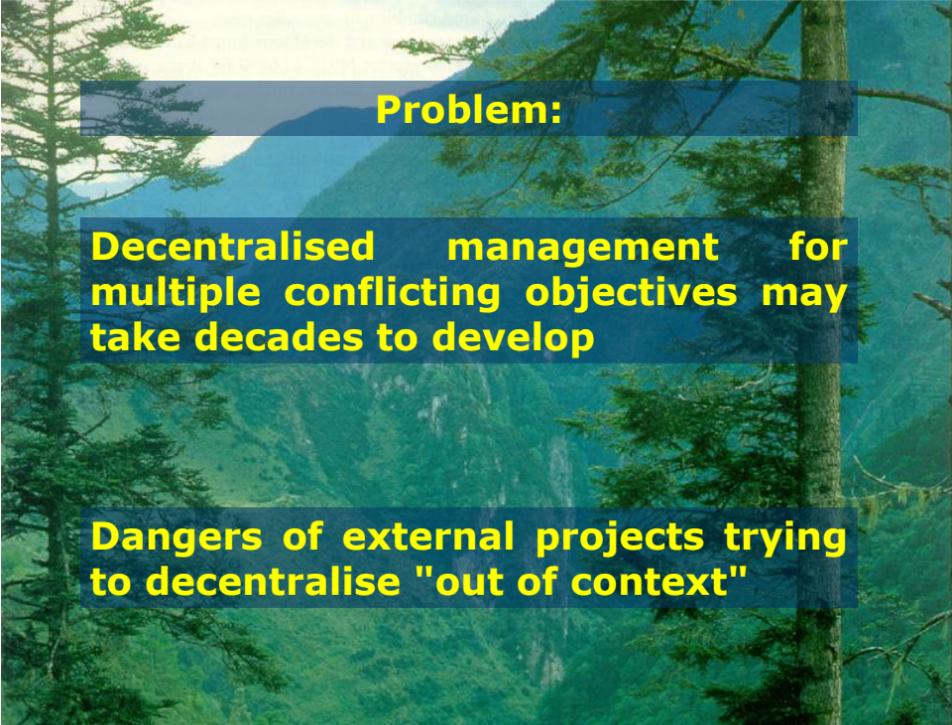
### Assumes:

- Biodiversity is important for ecosystem functions
- Ecosystem functions are important for biodiversity



## 12 principles of CBD


- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| • Societal choice                        | **  |
| • Decentralised                          | *** |
| • Adjacent effects                       | *   |
| • Economic context                       | **  |
| • Ecosystem function/structure           | **  |
| • Ecological limits                      | **  |
| • Appropriate temporal/spatial scales    | *   |
| • Long-term                              | *   |
| • Adapting to change                     | **  |
| • Balance of conservation and use        | **  |
| • Combine scientific and local knowledge | **  |
| • Multi-stakeholder/disciplines          | *   |



**Problem:**

**Decentralised management for multiple conflicting objectives may take decades to develop**

**Dangers of external projects trying to decentralise "out of context"**



**Institutional arrangements have to be credible and effective**

- Tenure
- Laws
- Regulatory capacity
- Civil society



## **Problem:**

Dealing with large landscape mosaics under multiple ownership



## **Problem**

Environmental service payments  
in areas with multiple  
stakeholders and community or  
common pool resources

